



HUNDRED PEAKS LOOKOUT

VOLUME III

ISSUE 3

HUNDRED PEAKS SECTION

JUNE 1966

ANGELES CHAPTER

SIERRA CLUB

FIRE CLOSURES

Don't forget that fire closure is in effect in all regular closure areas. In fact, some areas were brought into closure early, and certain climbs had to be cancelled. Because of these cancellations people are reminded, it pays to check with trip leaders for last minute changes.

A list of fire closure peaks appeared in the February 1966 LOOKOUT. If you don't have that list and you are in doubt, don't climb. Don't violate closure areas. Remember, peaks climbed in violation of a closure do not count for emblem credit. It may be more expensive than that, fines are heavy. A word to the wise.....

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ANNUAL BANQUET--ADVANCE NOTICE

Larry Salmon has been appointed chairman of the Banquet Committee and already has plans well under way. Date-- Saturday, January 7, 1967. Place--Rudis' Italian Inn. Price-- \$3.75 per person. More details in future issues.

EXPLORING JOSHUA TREE

This is not the time of year that most people pick to explore Joshua Tree. For those that don't know, that also happens to be the title of a book authored by our Vice-Chairman Roger Mitchell.

It's a worthwhile item that you will enjoy reading to help in your understanding of one of our climbing areas.

Published by another one of our members, Walt Wheelock, the

book is available for \$1.00 at all the mountaineering stores we frequent.

Bring your copy on the next trip, I'm sure Roger will be glad to autograph it for you.

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FAR, FAR AWAY

Some of our members are pretty good about filing changes of address so they can keep up on HPS activities.

For instance-- Dave Stepsay, P.O. Box 28172, Tel Aviv, Israel.

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ZIP CODES

Speaking of addresses, please check the address on the cover of this issue. According to new postal regulations, we must have Zip as a part of the address in order to make bulk mailings on or after January 1, 1967.

If the Zip is not in your address on this issue, we don't have it on file. A phone call, or a penny post-card (cost 4¢) will do. See address bottom of this page.

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CENTRAL COMMITTEE

It is pleasing to note that attendance at Central Committee meetings is increasing. This interest by the membership is encouraging to the Committee members (it makes them want to do an even better job this year.)

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THE HUNDRED PEAKS LOOKOUT -- Published bi monthly by the Hundred Peaks Section of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club. Mailed to subscribers on even numbered months.

SUBSCRIPTIONS -- \$1.00 per year. Subscribing to the LOOKOUT is a requirement for active membership in the HPS.

REMITTANCE -- Must be sent to the HPS Treasurer, Janis Hawley, 333 - 15th Place, Manhattan Beach, Calif. 90266.

DEADLINE NEXT ISSUE -- August 26, 1966. Mail to Bob Van Allen, 4641 Newman Avenue., Cypress, Calif. 90630.

ARTICLES AND LETTERS -- This publication is the official newsletter of the HPS and as such welcomes articles and letters pertaining to the Section. Please type (double space) if possible.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual membership meeting will be October 18. Please refer to your Schedule 182. Look for map in the next LOOKOUT. But now--plan to attend. It's your Section--help make it work.

RULES FOR CONDUCT

Following are the rules of conduct adopted for Angeles Chapter Outings. They will be published in future schedules. They are published here for your convenience.

A. Objectives: In order to assure the well-being of all, preserve natural beauty and living things, and maintain goodwill toward the Sierra Club and its objectives, the following rules are promulgated:

B. Duties, responsibilities, and authority of the Leader:

The leader is in charge; he will clearly identify himself and will introduce himself and the assistant leader to the group at the outset, and acquaint the group with pertinent items in the following section:

C. Rules for all:

1. Conduct must at all times be acceptable to the group itself, to the general public, and to officials with whom the group may come in contact.
2. The authority of the leader is to be recognized.
3. No one may leave the group without the consent of the leader or assistant leader. (Anyone who leaves otherwise forfeits all claims on the group.)
4. Abide by the ruling of the leader as to adequacy of clothing, footgear, equipment, proficiency, experience, strength, endurance, etc. required in the activity.
5. Obey all fire, sanitary, administrative, and safety regulations of both the Club and governmental agencies. Don't throw rocks. Bring out all unburned litter. Take only photographs and leave only footprints. On trails don't cut across switchbacks.
6. Pets, firearms, and use of radios are prohibited on outings.
7. Special rule for minors: They must either (a) be accompanied by an adult (parent or guardian or authorized substitute), or (b) have written permission of parent or guardian giving phone number, and authorization for continuing treatment by an M.D. in case of necessity.

UPCOMING IN AUGUST

The August issue of the LOOKOUT will publish, in addition to regular articles, and trip reports, a preview of the November 1966-February 1967 HPS trip schedule, a complete membership roster, and proposed revisions to the by-laws to be voted upon at the annual membership meeting. Plus more details on the new HPS monthly event (see below).

FIRST AID KITS

Our HPS first aid kits are now carried on all scheduled trips. In case you have a need--look to the assistant leader.

Congratulations to Connie Mitchell for a job well done in providing well equipped kits, light in weight, and at a cost less than we had anticipated.

Remember, these kits are not intended to replace or eliminate your own individual first aid kit.

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CONDOR INFORMATION

The Forest Service has a new map out called Condor Country-- Los Padres National Forest. In it is much information about Condors and Condor observation points. It is available at some Angeles Forest Stations. Note: The map does not show fire closure areas and some of the area is closed.

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HPS MONTHLY MEETING

In the last LOOKOUT the subject of a general, non-business meeting on a monthly basis was approached. I am pleased to report that since that time much discussion has taken place and the Central Committee has decided to institute such meetings. Time, place, program, etc. will be carried in the regular Angeles Chapter Schedule as well as in the LOOKOUT. The first meeting is scheduled for November. The August issue of the LOOKOUT will carry full details.

Old-timers in HPS as well as newcomers should find these meetings informative as well as a pleasant social affair. Programs for November through February have already been established. Later on you may have a subject appropriate to HPS which you would like to present. I'm sure we'll be discussing these meetings on trips at lunch stops and around campfires.

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LEADERS AND ASSISTANTS

The response to the request for leaders and assistants to help spread the load has been most gratifying. In the November

through February schedule no trip leader is leading more than one trip. In only two cases (due to personal desire) is a leader also an assistant on another trip. In other words, something on the order of 18 different leaders and assistants for 10 trips.

Looks like true HPS spirit. Thanks and keep it up.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO:

1. NEW MEMBERS

Carol Akawie, 123 Deerbrook Lane, LA 90049
Charalee Fossett, 10931 Allen Drive, Garden Grove
Larry Machleder, 420 Pico, Santa Monica 90405
Dan Popper, 1010 El Medio Ave., Pacific Palisades 90272
Doris Ryan, 22941A Maple Ave., Torrance 90505
Lloyd Ryan
Lewis Hill, Box 441, Main P.O., No. Hollywood
Joe Darrow, P.O. Box 25961, LA 90025
Jerrold Russom, P.O. Box 3307, Term. Annex, LA 90054
Joseph Kazlowski, 11652 Montana Ave., LA 90049
Bob Herlihy, 2930 141st Place, Gardena 90247
Max Davis, 17831 Cantara, Reseda

2. NEW MASCOTS

Alice Akawie 11
Kathy Browder 9
David Frost 6
Sandra Frost 10
Jon Petitjean 8
Sandra Petitjean 10
Deborah Kazlowski 11

3. NEW EMBLEM HOLDERS

#122 Roger Mitchell
#123 Dick Fossett

4. NEW 200 PIN HOLDERS

#1 Sam Fink
#2 Bob Hawthorne

Congratulations to all of you!

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MOUNTAIN RECORDS COMMITTEE NEEDS HELP

The Mountain Records Committee is setting up a revised set of records for the Section. In order to do this they are in need of several hundred (like 250) letter size, manila file folders, 1/5 cut. If you can contribute in this area please call Bob Hawthorne.

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HARWOOD LODGE

Very often we get so accustomed to the information in the front of the Chapter Schedule that we fail to read the first 25 or so pages. Effective November 1, 1966 the Harwood fee schedule is changed. Increases are not significant, but don't rely on your memory of the old rates.

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HELP FROM SAN DIEGO

The San Diego Chapter has provided us with copies of their first-aid notes for inclusion in our kits. We appreciate the contribution. Remember, the San Diego Chapter publishes the very worthwhile book Basic Mountaineering, which is available from all our regular book sources or by mail \$2.00 from Sierra Club, San Diego Chapter, P.O. Box 525, San Diego, Calif.

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KELLER PEAK SKI HUT

To all who use and enjoy (and to those who just like to work) the Keller Hut, don't forget that work parties are scheduled for September 24-25 and October 15-16. See Schedule 182 for details.

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REGISTERS--HELP WANTED

More small hinged lid cans are needed for mountain registers. Note books are also needed. As wire binders rust, stitched note books are better but where can we find them? Leaders are asked to carry spare registers to replace those missing or all shot. Rather than scatter contents of full cans we will store them in a box until we find a better place for them. Send to Bob Hawthorne, 1860 Silverwood Terrace, LA 90026.

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NEW PEAKS LIST--MORE HELP WANTED

A new list will be made up after the October Annual Meeting. John Ripley and Sam Fink are both checking spelling and elevation with the very latest topographic maps. How Bailey is working to regroup the names for greater ease in map location.

We hope we can include a difficulty rating for each peak. Perhaps some of our mathematicians can derive a formula for integrating all factors as total elevation gain, distance, pace to finish before dark, sharp rocks on trail, rolling pebbles on rocks as at Villager, scree as at Galena, brush as at Ortega and on and on, then push the right buttons on a computer and in a split second come our with an index that will tell each leader how to designate his next hike so the Gung-hos won't be bored to death and neophytes won't take such a beating.

Yes, there is an easier way: All we want to know is, "How hard is the hike?" Anyone who has climbed 10 peaks (only one drive-up) can tell which one was the hardest. Then he can list four of average difficulty, two a bit harder and two a bit easier. Put the drive-up first. If enough people, especially those with a hundred or more on their list, will do this we should come up with a pretty good average of what folks think of the difficulty of each peak. Just get an old peaks list and letter each peak you know as follows:

10%	A	Automobiles
20%	B	Beginners
40%	C	Central Core
20%	D	Drag
10%	E	Exhausting

Consider each climb by the easiest route. If Santiago is rated "E" "Holy Jim" will tell why. Only those who went that way will understand. In other words, if Mt. Wilson is not rated "A" an explanation as "Rattlesnake", "Sam Merrill", "Toll Road", "Chantry Flats" should be given. A sample from the peaks list is given to show how one person rates comparative difficulty.

	B Mt. Lewis	
D	C Throop Pk.	These three are each rated "C" but combined up the new Sierra Club trail to Throop and down the Boy Scout way "D"
D	C Mt. Burnham	
	C Mt. Baden Powell	
	B Pinyon Rige.	
	A Table Mtn.	
	B Circle Mtn.	
D	B Wright Mtn.	
	C Fine Mtn. #2	
	D Dawson Pk.	
	D Ross Mtn.	
	C Smith Mtn.	
	E Rattlesnake Pk.	
	E Iron Mtn. #1	
	C Mt. San Antonio	
A -	C Sunset Pk.	Sometimes the gate is left open.
	C Lookout Mtn. #2	
A -	C Thunder Mtn.	Skiers ride the chair lift to the top.
	C Telegraph Pk.	From Notch including Thunder.
	D Timber Mtn.	

C-D	D Sheep Mtn.	Martinez in one day rates "E" but both peaks in two days rate "C" first day and "D" the second.
	E Martinez Pk.	

Remember, one person's rating can not be trusted. If we have 10 people or more rate each peak we can arrive at some reliability, especially if each person has as many "A's" as "E's" and as many "B's" as "D's". We hope for many responses to this request. We can't all be wrong---unless a new road is built. PLEASE take a few minutes, check your list and send it to Bob Hawthorne.

COMPANIONS WANTED

2 week back pack in either Sierra or Trinity Alps from August 27 to September 10. Write Lewis Hill, Box 441, Main Post Office, No. Hollywood, Calif., or call 769-3558. Medium strenuous. Experienced back packers only. Limit to party of 5 or 6 of equal interest.

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MYSTERY TRIP

Schedule 182 indicates that the September 17 mystery hike will be revealed in the August LOOKOUT. Due to the fact that there may not be much time (if any) between August publication and September 17, here are the details so you may plan ahead. Help us with LOOKOUT circulation. If people ask you about the trip tell them to subscribe and they will know about such things. See bottom of page 2. Remember subscribers need not be members.

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September 17 Saturday 100 Peaks

Mystery Hike 8:00 a.m. Sharp Section Members in god Standing!

Meet at Ice House Resort parking lot (West End) for early Fall hike through Ice House Canyon to Cucamonga and Etiwanda Peaks. Hiking: 16 miles Gain: 3000'
Take Mountain Ave. north off San Bernardino Freeway. Hike led by Mysterious Beavers: George Ruptier and Marvin Siddel.

For Information call (714) 593-4388
2555 Price Drive, La Verne, Calif. 91750

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TIMBER MT., BIGHORN MT., APR. 30
ONTARIO PK., SUGARLOAF PK.

SIERRA CLUB LEADERS:
RUSS MOHN
PAUL MOHN

P.C.C. HIGHLANDERS LEADERS:
STEVE ANDERSON
JEFF WANAMAKER

The itinerary of this joint trip was stated on the trip sheet and copies were given to all participants. It stated "Today's trip will include as a minimum Bighorn Mt. and Ontario Pk.; however, those with lots of energy can add Timber Mt. and Sugarloaf Pk. also. The plan will be to divide the group at the beginning. Paul Mohn will lead a fast group to The Saddle and on to Timber Mt. and its scree slope. Russ Mohn will lead a slower group to The Saddle and directly up Bighorn Mt. and on to Ontario Pk. The fast group will probably overtake the slower group somewhere between Bighorn and Ontario. All will lunch together at the summit of Ontario Pk. After lunch Russ Mohn will lead a fast group to Sugarloaf Pk. and back to Icehouse Canyon via a steep, rough, cross-country route--do not attempt

this route unless you can move well on rough, trailless terrain. Paul Mohn will lead the slower group via the trail to Kelly's Camp, thence back to The Saddle and down Icehouse Canyon.

Other mountains in the area on the 100 Peaks list are: Telegraph Pk., north of Timber, Cucamonga Pk. and Etiwanda Pk. southeast of The Saddle; there are trails close to the summits of each of these."

The trip was led according to the outline on the trip sheet. Communication between the separated groups was maintained by walkie-talkie radio and there was also radio communication between the leader and assistant leader of each group when respective groups got spread out. Because of careful scouting the week before, the time schedule for the day as announced at the beginning of the trip was actually realized within a very few minutes. The biggest problem was keeping the groups together; people got into the fast group who shouldn't have been there--there were people in the slow group for whom the hike was much too ambitious. Participation included 31 members, 14 guests and 12 P.C.C. Highlanders.

MT. ABEL, BRUSH MTN.,
SAN EMIGDIO MTN.

MAY 7

LEADER: MIRIAM MYHRE
ASST. : BERNARD PETITJEAN

Twenty-nine members and seven guests met at 9:30 a.m. on a hazy, warm day. Although all can now be done as drive-ups, the leaders elected to lead the trip to provide $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours of hiking. A good time was had by all. After meeting on top of Abel, the group drove to Marion Campground and hiked along the ridge to San Emigdio. After lunch the group returned to the campground and hiked up to Brush. MIRIAM MYHRE

YUCAIPA RIDGE TRIP

MAY 14-15

LEADER: BOB VAN ALLEN
ASST. : LARRY SALMON

The schedule write-up failed to deter 33 hardy souls from participating in this most unusual trip. An early start from Mill Creek with empty water bottles got us up the first 800 or so feet in short order. At that point we picked up water sufficient to last us for two days.

It had been planned to lunch on Little San Gorgonio but plans were changed and we lunched 1000 feet below the summit. The change in plans was made after it took almost 2 hours to get the group up a relatively short distance of several hundred feet of loose, dangerous rock. Four people were injured (all completed the trip) by rockfall.

Over this stretch, it was necessary to move in groups of 5 and 6 working closely together. A fixed rope on the last 100 feet helped navigating with water-filled Kelty's. A rest break and first-aid period enabled most to recover in spirit as well as

physically after assurance that the worst part of the trip was over.

Upon reaching the summit of Little San Geronio we took a short break, reassembling the group before the traverse to Wilshire Mtn. Much well-wishing and congratulations on Wilshire Mtn.--the 100th peak for Roger Mitchell. As it was getting late we camped several hundred yards west of Wilshire Mtn. Most people were glad to stop even though supper would be cold. No fires were allowed. It was on this trip we really appreciated an evening campfire--because we couldn't have one. Like many things, they mean most when you can't have them. Next day information which is usually given at the campfire--was given to the group surrounding the leaders' sleeping bag.

A 6:45 a.m. start put us on Wilshire Pk. shortly after 7:00 and the view was inspiring. We continued our backpack to Cedar, but on Birch we dropped our packs several hundred feet below the summit (along the trail). From a point by an old stump on the east side of the summit of Birch, there is an excellent view (good picture) of San Jacinto.

Although there would be some gain (500-600') on Allen, the big descent began upon leaving Birch. At this point all 33 had signed in on all 5 peaks. The truck trail junction provided another good place to drop packs and with lunch and water, 28 climbed Allen. From Allen, it is a long road walk out to Mill Creek. Then, the shuttle back to the road-head near Vivian Creek.

If you really want to feel the effect of this trip--ask any participant. Comments will range from "Great" to "I'll never do it again!" and from "It sure was interesting" to "I'll help if you want to lead it again".

To all who participated, my congratulations for your discipline and over all cooperation. To all who didn't participate in the trip--Sorry about that! BOB VAN ALLEN

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RANGER PEAK	MAY 21	LEADER: GENE ANDREOSKY
INDIAN MTN.		ASST. : BOB SCHULL

Approximately thirty people showed up at Vista Grande Ranger Station on the Idyllwild-Banning Road on what was a very beautiful day. The trip to Ranger Peak was very easy and the group was able to remain together. The leader first took the group to the old lookout location where the register is located. This, however, is not the high point so on the way back to the Ranger station the assemblage climbed to the high point. Now these people can tell the millions of others who hiked only to the old lookout station--and counted the peak--that they cheated and should go back and climb the high point.

After Ranger Peak, the group caravanned to Indian Mountain with a stop at Fulmer Lake. Indian was a longer hike than

Ranger and involved a considerable loss in altitude and then a climb to the peak. On the climb to the peak the leader had a choice of either taking a road to the top or a steep fire break. Since the leader is naturally left-handed, he always possesses the prerogative to do things backwards. He therefore took everyone up the firebreak and down the road. Lunch was eaten on top of Indian Mountain. Its a good thing the leader had a cast-iron stomach what with the comments made about his sardines with mustard sauce and the chocolate cookies with the white stuff in between.

After Indian the group scattered. One smaller group climbed Black Mtn. via the Cinco Poses trail. By the way, if anyone knows what poses means will they please let me know? Others went to Black Mtn. by the more conventional route--the road--these took automobiles after being assured by the leader that the road for the most part would be pretty good. Reports from this group indicated that the road for the most part was pretty bad!

On Sunday, the leader, assistant leader, and three others made a loop trip of Suicide Peak. They climbed the peak via the trail and descended over the other side to Humber Park. The vegetation was beautiful. This trip is especially recommended in the spring and will probably be scheduled next spring.

GENE ANDREOSKY

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SAMON PEAK

MAY 28-30

LEADER: HOW BAILEY

ASST. : BOB HAWTHORNE

Five stubborn characters met Saturday morning at the Reyes Ranch in Cuyama Valley in order to tackle the Samon ridge. As predicted, no ride was offered or for sale, so we started hiking with around 2 gallons of water apiece. However, after a couple of miles a ranger came by in his truck and carried our packs up the road 7 miles for us---quite a break. We camped at a wide place in the road about 14 miles from the locked gate.

Next morning we started off with high hopes, having met a man the previous morning who said he had gotten to the peak in 3 hours just last year. Well, to make a very long story short, it took us 5 hours to get there and 5 more to get back. This is positively the worst bushwhack I have seen; and it is too bad, too, because the rest of the area is so beautiful around there. The major features of the route are obvious, but the details are completely controlled by the brush. You think nothing of losing 50 feet to get a relatively clear route, but even this doesn't help very often. The final rise, after going over 4 intermediate "bumps" on the ridge, was a class 2 scramble--and what a relief and joy it was. But then you had to go back over the whole thing again! Half a mile an hour was our speed, tho' it felt like five. However, every one of the group took turns leading, and Bob Hawthorne kept us all in a good humor. We came out down a long steep gully just a few yards north of Chokecherry Spring, and we would recommend this

as the entry point for any nut foolish enough to try this peak again. We found the spring running, so we drank and washed off and completely transformed our spirits in ten minutes of sheer revelry. That evening after supper we carried our packs almost 3 miles and 1000 feet up the road to the saddle on the Samon-Madulce ridge for a beautiful but frosty campsite.

Next day Bob and Dave McGlone went on to Big Pine and West Pine, undoubtedly getting Madulce as well, but taking an extra day to get out. Fred Bode, Larry Machleder and I took the trail down to Madulce Guard Station where we found lots of water and Harry and Siina Melts. They had camped there 2 nights, doing the 3 "normal" peaks in one 22-mile day in between. We came out the Santa Barbara Canyon trail together. This is far pleasanter than the road, and highly recommended to all the future hikers we hope will come to enjoy this area---for it is gorgeous unspoiled country if you just forget about Samon.

HOW BAILEY

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ALAMO MTN TO BLACK MTN.

JUNE 4

LEADERS: BOB HAWTHORNE
PHIL MARTIN

When schedule write-ups were due last Dec. 6, rains had raised such havoc with mountain roads, participants were asked to contact leaders for feasibility of a two-day back pack. Those who called found a quite opposite report. The Forest Service had the roads in such good condition that all scheduled peaks could easily be climbed in one day except McDonald which was out-of-bounds because of early fire closure.

All cars though shaken a bit and covered with dust, easily made the last saddle before McDonald Peak. Due to limited parking and a last mile of rough and twisting road, all jammed into the compacts and the three four-wheeledrives and were soon within a few feet of the summit of Sewart Mtn. (Shall we take it off the list because it is a drive-up?) Incidentalyy while scouting, a jeep was seen almost to the saddle between White and Cobblestone Mtns. Makes one wonder how long our list will last if the Forest Service continues to build roads and we take off all drive-ups.)

As the return of the 29 peak-baggers varied from 2:30 to 5:00 from the down-up-----up-up-up trail over Snowy on to Black and reverse to Sewart, the group scattered for home or more peak-bagging.

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MT. HARWOOD, MT. BALDY

JUNE 12

LEADER: BOB HAWTHORNE
ASST. : BEN NEFFSON

An injured leg prevented the scheduled leader, Steve Molnar, from attending this trip. His place was taken by veteran 100 Peaker Bob Hawthorne, with Ben Neffson assuming the duties of assistant leader, as scheduled. Of the 42 attendees, all but

three took the ski lift to Baldy Notch, the latter electing to hike up under the lift. Approximately one quarter of those present were guests and, for about an equal number this was to be a first trip with the 100 Peaks Section. Among the participants was Sam Fink, number two emblem holder in the section (Weldon Heald is number one). Sam has climbed considerably more than 500 peaks on the SPS, DPS, and 100 Peaks Section lists. This trip was to mark his twenty-seventh time on Baldy!

The hike from the Notch along a jeep road and then by way of the Devil's Backbone to Mt. Harwood was uneventful, although a few stragglers needed some urging to prevent an excessive gap between the middle and tail end of the party. All but two reached the top of Mt. Harwood, an easy and short climb off the Mt. Baldy trail. Considerable nausea stopped one participant at the base of the peak. Accompanied by a companion, this hiker decided to return to the Notch and wait there for the group.

This was the first scheduled climb of Mt. Harwood and there was some discussion (admittedly academic) as to whether or not it should be included in the official 100 Peaks Section list. While its proximity to Baldy would certainly act against its inclusion it would, on the other hand, appear strange that a peak named for a club benefactor (through the efforts of the 100 Peaks Section) could still not be placed on the Section's official list of qualifying peaks. Perhaps this should be borne in mind in reaching a decision upon the matter.

All but two of the group (who decided that one peak was enough for the first time out) then proceeded to Baldy for lunch. However, because of the numerous insects on Baldy, lunch was a rather hasty affair and too little time was spent on top. The return to the chair lift was made in good time and everyone was down by 4 p.m. BEN NEFFSON

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DAWSON MTN., PINE MTN.#1,
WRIGHT MTN.

"Everyone was down by 4 p.m." applied as stated in the write-up above, to those who returned to the notch. After lunch on Mt. Baldy, four participants, Paul Goff, Roger Mitchell, Joyce Van Allen and Bob Van Allen, departed from the group and headed for Wright Mtn. via Dawson and Pine.

It was not only our desire to make the trip--it was a necessity. My VW bus was parked west of Wright Mtn. and we had no car at the ski lift! This is a fine trip and is to be highly recommended. We were at the bus at 5 p.m. BOB VAN ALLEN

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HILDRETH PEAK

JUNE 25

LEADERS: VARIOUS
ASSISTANTS: SUNDRY

con't page 14

After much concern about change of leaders, the question was settled by the Forest Service beginning fire closure in the Los Padres one month early (June 1).

Perhaps we can reschedule this lowest of our qualifiers several months earlier next year. Any volunteers?

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MONROVIA PEAK APRIL 17

At about 8:30 a.m., Tom Amneus, Monroe Levy, and I started from the Chantry Flats Ranger Station for a hike to Monrovia Peak. (To my knowledge, the last time this peak was scheduled was in 1960.) Neglected for years, the trail, or part of it, was again to come under "maintained" status. As a matter of fact, a conversation with the ranger on duty elicited the information that approximately the first $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of the trail was now in the process of being reworked.

From the ranger station we dropped down to the floor of Santa Anita Canyon and proceeded north along the stream bed to a point where we could pick up the trail. From this point on, it was only Tom's unique ability at route finding that permitted us to bring the trip to a successful conclusion. We found the trail, the first $\frac{1}{4}$ mile or so bearing the fresh evidence of recent labor. Beyond this, however, it had been neglected for more than six years. It was in very poor shape, mostly overgrown, sometimes all but impassable, and, at times, non-existent; years of neglect and heavy rains having destroyed complete sections. Approximately, a total of one hour was spent in trying to relocate the trail after it would suddenly disappear with eroded parts of the mountain. Except for the rework at the beginning of the trail, part of the growth obstructing it for the first two miles or so was poison oak. The overgrowth, mostly wild lilac, was considerable and made upright walking difficult, if not impossible. At times the going resembled cross-country bushwacking; at least it was as enervating. Some relief was experienced when the trail intersected an old fire road which made easier going for about a half mile or less. However, after this we had the comparative simplicity of the ups and downs of firebreaks to Monrovia Peak (passing Rankin Peak on the way).

Tom was the first to reach the peak, Monroe came up about ten minutes later, and I staggered up about ten minutes after that. Time permitted only about a fifteen minute rest after lunch on the peak, and it was somewhat after 2 p.m. when we started back, arriving at our car just before it got dark. Although the round trip was just about 16 miles, trail conditions made this an arduous all day hike. If the entire trail is reworked it should become a pleasant (but not easy) trip.

BEN NEFFSON

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